

AMENDED VERSION

CLAIMS:

1. A method of preventing a viral respiratory infection by administering an effective amount of an agent for down-regulating ICAM-1 expression in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

4. The method according to claim 1, wherein said administration further includes administering the agent by inhalation when the agent is capable of inhalation administration.

5. The method according to claim 2, wherein said administration step further includes administering the agent orally when the agent is capable of oral administration.